

Services

DELAWARE'S OFFICE OF LEAD POISONING PREVENTION

The Delaware Division of Public Health's Office of Lead Poisoning Prevention protects the health of Delawareans by preventing childhood lead poisoning and promoting health among children (unborn through six years of age) through education, safe environments, screening and early intervention.

The Office of Lead Poisoning Prevention (OLPP) accomplishes its mission by:

- Increasing public awareness of the dangers of lead poisoning;
- Preventing/controlling lead hazards before exposure occurs;
- Universal screening of pre-school children; and
- Case management, education and/or environmental investigation for children with blood lead levels exceeding the "level of concern" established by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Services provided:

The Office of Lead Poisoning Prevention provides four core services:

- 1. It promotes the testing of all children at 12-months-of-age, and repeat testing of those at high-risk until six years of age;
- 2. It provides case management and inspection, for lead hazards, in homes of children with elevated blood-lead levels:
- 3. It offers health education and distributes materials on the causes and effects of lead poisoning among young children, and how to identify and reduce lead hazards; and
- 4. It analyses results of children identified with elevated blood lead to determine those at increased risk and thus target prevention activities to priority areas and populations.

The Office of Lead Poisoning Prevention implements long-range prevention programs, submits grant applications, and regulates and certifies contractors who provide services to reduce lead hazards.

Contact the Office of Lead Poisoning Prevention if:

- You have any questions regarding lead poisoning.
- If you notice uncontrolled dust from construction work on a pre-a1978 housing unit.
- If your home was built prior to 1978 and it has chipping, flaking or peeling paint. This is especially urgent if children less than six years of age live or spend a lot of time in the home.
- You plan to disturb more than 2 feet square of painted surface in a housing unit built prior to 1978. You will receive a list of Firms Engaged in Lead-based Paint Activities in Delaware.
- If your child is less than six years old, does not have health insurance and needs a blood lead test.

DPH Partners in Lead Poisoning Prevention:

The City of Wilmington • The Latin American Community Center • The Delaware State Housing Authority • Bethel AME Church/Beautiful Gate Outreach Center • The Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning – based in Maryland • The State Medicaid Program • Alfred I. DuPont (Nemours) Clinics for Children • Westside Health Center • Delmarva Rural Ministries • La Red Health Center • Environmental Hazards Services doing business as BTS Laboratories, Inc.

For more information: Please call Public Health Central Intake at these numbers:

• New Castle County: (302) 995-8590; Fax (302) 995-8260

• Kent and Sussex County: (302) 424-7300; Fax (302) 422-1363

24/7 Emergency Contact Number: 1-888-295-5156 Doc. #35-05-20/07/10/11

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